



# TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE  
CONTACT: Michelle Earl 276-669-9999 (office)  
423-335-6693 (cell)  
[Michelle.Earl@VDOT.Virginia.Gov](mailto:Michelle.Earl@VDOT.Virginia.Gov)

Oct. 22, 2009  
BR-0989

## **VDOT BRISTOL'S WEEKLY TRAFFIC ALERT: October 26 – November 1, 2009**

BRISTOL, Va. – In an effort to keep motorists informed, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) provides weekly information about highway construction and maintenance projects in southwestern Virginia. When traveling through highway work zones, use caution and be alert to changes in traffic patterns and slow-moving or stopped traffic.

**Motorists face a maximum fine of \$500 for speeding in highway work zones.** Law enforcement officers monitor highway work zones throughout the region.

### **INTERSTATE PROJECTS**

**Interstate 81 – guardrail installation:** Expect lane closures during daylight hours due to guardrail and rumble strip installation work on Interstate 81 north and southbound near Exit 35 in Chilhowie. (Completion: October 2009)

**\*\*\*Interstate 77 maintenance activities:** Anticipate lane closures this week on Interstate 77 in Virginia due to pothole bridge sweeping.

**\*\*\*Interstates 81 maintenance activities:** Due to bridge deck patching, motorists may experience delays on Interstate 81 near mile marker 67 in Wythe County, near Exit 45 in Marion and near Exit 13 in Abingdon.

### **PRIMARY HIGHWAYS AND HIGH TRAFFIC SECONDARY ROADS:**

**\*\*\*Pavement Markings - mobile, rolling work zones:** Be alert to a caravan of slow-moving trucks applying pavement markings on highways at various locations **in areas of Lee and Wythe counties.**

### **Buchanan County**

**Route 460 Grundy – Phase II:** Beginning October 27, motorists may experience delays due to demolition of the former KFC restaurant. The demolition work at this location will take approximately two weeks to complete.

Motorists should be alert to the possibility of lengthy delays on Route 460 in the Cow Town area in the coming weeks due to excavation and blasting work in the area. Pay close attention to flaggers directing traffic through the area.

The blasting and excavation work is part of the Phase II widening of Route 460 in Grundy, from the newly constructed section of Route 460 in downtown Grundy to Route 615 in the Cow Town area. (Completion: mid-November 2011)

**Buchanan County- Water Line, Sewer Line Installation:** The following projects in areas of Buchanan County will restrict traffic to one lane during daylight hours:

- Water line installation work on Routes 602 and 601 in the Duty area of Buchanan and Dickenson counties (Completion: summer 2010)
- Sewer line installation work on Route 604 in the Poplar Creek area. (Completion: spring 2010)

### **Dickenson County**

**\*\*\*Sewer line project – various routes:** Due to sewer line projects on Routes 72, 83 and 621 west of Clintwood in Dickenson County be alert to the possibility of daytime lane closures along these routes. (Completion: spring 2010)

**\*\*\*Water and sewer line project – downtown Pound:** Lane closures are possible on Business Route 23 through Pound due to a downtown revitalization project. Water and sewer line work, as well as repaving and sidewalk construction are underway in this area. (Completion: summer 2010)

**Route 652 (Neely Ridge):** Due to installation of a retaining wall at the site of recent slope stabilization work on Route 652 (Neely Ridge) in Dickenson County, motorists may experience delays in the area. The work will be between the intersections of Route 664 (Mill Street) and Turkey Branch. Motorists should consider alternate routes while work is underway. (Completion: October 2009)

**Route 658 (Flat Spur Road):** Motorists may experience delays on a section of Route 658 (Flat Spur Road) in Dickenson County due to a road widening project. The project extends 1.43 miles on Route 658 to the intersection of Route 800. Be alert to flaggers directing traffic during daylight hours. (Completion: May 2010)

**Water line installation – various routes:** Be alert to periodic lane closures on various secondary routes throughout Dickenson County due to the Big Caney III and IV and the Multi-Community water line installation projects. (Completion: summer 2010)

### **Grayson County**

**Route 58 bridge repairs:** Due to bridge repairs, traffic is being controlled by signals on the Route 58 bridge over Peach Bottom Creek located just east of Independence in Grayson County. The bridge is restricted to one 14-foot-wide lane during repairs. Use caution in this area. (Completion: May 2010)

**Route 842 (Twin Pond Road):** Be alert to the possibility of lane closures due to improvements along a section of Route 842 (Twin Pond Road) in the Fries area. (Completion: December 2009)

**Route 748 (Laurel Creek Road):** Be alert to the possibility of lane closures due to improvements along a section of Route 748 (Laurel Creek Road) in the Rugby area. (Completion: December 2009)

### **Lee County**

**Alternate Route 58:** Due to a bridge reconstruction project, signals are controlling one 12-foot-wide lane across the Alternate Route 58 bridge over the North Powell River in Pennington Gap. Use caution in this area and pay close attention to signs in the work zone. (Completion: November 2009)

### **Russell County**

**Route 618:** A section of Route 618 in the Rabbit Ridge section of Russell County has been closed to allow Paramount Coal Company Virginia LLC to perform surface mine operations in the area. The 0.4-mile section begins about one-mile east of Route 600 and extends eastward. When the mining operations are complete, Paramount Coal Company Virginia LLC will rebuild the closed section of Route 618, eliminating steep grades and sharp curves along the existing section of Route 618.

### **Smyth County**

**Route 622 (Nick's Creek Road):** Due to a project to widen and replace a bridge on Route 622 (Nick's Creek Road) in Smyth County, a section of the route is closed to traffic. Motorists can detour around the project by using Kelly Hill Road, Pierce Road, Big Prater Road and Route 16. Motorists are advised to use caution in this area and pay close attention to detour signs. (Completion: December 1, 2009)

**Route 11 – bridge replacement:** Traffic signals are controlling one-lane traffic on Route 11 at the west end of Chilhowie due to a bridge replacement project. Use caution in this area. (Completion: July 2010)

### Wise County

**Route 23 – cross-over project:** A cross-over project is underway on Route 23 at J.W. Adams Combined School, causing daytime lane closures in the work zone. In the coming weeks, southbound traffic will be diverted to one of the northbound lanes and traffic will be separated by concrete barriers. There is a 14-foot width restriction during construction. The speed limit in the work zone is 45 miles per hour. (Completion: August 2010)

**Alternate Route 58 – water and sewer line installation:** Motorists may experience periodic lane closures on Alternate Route 58 between St. Paul and Virginia City and between Carfax and Virginia City due to water and sewer line installation projects. (Completion: December 2009)

**Route 78 bridge:** Traffic crossing the Route 78 bridge over Callahan Creek at Appalachia is being controlled by signals. The bridge has been reduced to one 12-foot-lane while the superstructure is being replaced. (Completion: November 2009)

### Wythe County

**Route 649 (Atkins Mill Road):** Be alert to the possibility of lane closures on a section of Route 649 (Atkins Mill Road) in the Wytheville area due to roadway improvements. (Completion: December 2009)

**Route 100 bridge and Route 637 (Greenbriar Road):** Due to bridge repairs, the Route 100 bridge over Little Reed Island Creek has been restricted to one 12-foot-wide lane and traffic signals are controlling traffic on both ends of the bridge. Route 637 (Greenbriar Road) in Wythe County has been closed due to the bridge project. Route 100 can be accessed from Route 637 about 1.5-miles south of the bridge project (Completion: May 2010)

(END)